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REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee

on East Timor

Rapporteur: Mrs I. van den Heuvel

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A Series: Reports - B series: Motions for Resolutions, Oral Questions, Written Declarations, etc. - C Series: Documents received from other Institutions (e.g. Consultations)

*	= Consultation procedure requiring a single reading	**II	= Cooperation procedure (second reading) which requires the votes of the majority of the Members of Parliament
**I	= Cooperation procedure (first reading)	***	= Parliamentary assent which requires the votes of the majority of the current Members of Parliament

At the sittings indicated below, the European Parliament referred to its Political Affairs Committee, pursuant to Rule 63 of the Rules of Procedure, the following motions for resolutions :

- on 10 October 1985, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE and Mr KUIJPERS on the reign of terror established by Indonesian troops in East Timor (Doc. B 2-927/85),
- on 9 December 1985, the motion for a resolution tabled by Miss BROOKES on the violations of human rights in East Timor (Doc. B 2-1146/85),
- on 9 December 1985, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr van der LEK on East Timor (Doc. B 2-1150/85),
- on 13 January 1986, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr David MARTIN and Mrs BUCHAN on East Timor (Doc. B 2-1218/85).
- on 8 February 1988, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr TELKAMPER and others on the imprisonment of Antonio Gonçalves a citizen of East Timor, in Indonesia (Doc. B 2-1510/87).

At its meeting of 4 November 1987, the Political Affairs Committee decided to draw up a report; it appointed Mrs van den Heuvel rapporteur on the same date.

The committee considered the draft report at its meetings of 25 February 1988, 23 March 1988 and 26 April 1988.

On 23 June 1988, the committee adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole by 15 votes to 10 with 1 abstention.

The following took part in the vote: Mr Coste-Floret (oldest member); Mrs van den Heuvel (rapporteur); Mr Aboim Inglez (deputizing for Mr Galluzzi), Mr Arndt (deputizing for Mr Haensch), Mr Bardong (deputizing for Mr Antoniozzi), Mr Barros Moura (deputizing for Mr Perez Royo), Mrs Charzat, Mr Condesso (deputizing for Mr De Gucht), Mr Crusol (deputizing for Mr Saby), Mr Habsburg, Mrs Lenz, Mr Madeira (deputizing for Mr Amadei), Mr Medina Ortega, Mr Mertens (deputizing for Mr Estgen, Mr Moran Lopez, Mr Newens, Mr Partrat (deputizing for Mr Pflimlin), Mr Penders, Mr Pirkl (deputizing for Mr Blumenfeld), Mr Plaskovitis, Mr Sakellariou (deputizing for Mr Ford), Sir James Scott-Hopkins (deputizing for Lord Bethell), Mr Staes (deputizing for Mr van der Lek), Mr Walter, Mr Wawrzik (deputizing for Mr Klepsch) and Mr Welsh.

The report was tabled on 30 June 1988.

The deadline for tabling amendments to this report will appear on the draft agenda for the part-session at which it is to be considered.

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The Political Affairs Committee hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement:

A

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on East Timor

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the resolution on the situation in East Timor adopted by the European Parliament on 10 July 1986 (Doc. B 2-591/86)(1),

- having regard to the resolution on the illegal and illegitimate occupation of East Timor by Indonesia, unanimously adopted by the ACP-EEC Joint Assenbly in Lisbon on 1 October 1987 (OJ No. C 50, 22.2.88, p. 51),

- having regard to the following motions for resolutions:
  - motion for a resolution tabled by Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE and Mr KUIJPERS on the reign of terror established by Indonesian troops in East Timor (Doc. B 2-927/85),
  - motion for a resolution tabled by Miss BROOKES on the violations of human rights in East Timor (Doc. B 2-1146/85),
  - motion for a resolution tabled by Mr van der LEK on East Timor (Doc. B 2-1150/85),
  - motion for a resolution tabled by Mr David MARTIN and Mrs BUCHAN on East Timor (Doc. B 2-1218/85).
  - motion for a resolution tabled by Mr TELEKAMPER and others on the imprisonment of Antonio Gonçalves, a citizen of East Timor, in Indonesia (Doc. B 2-1510/87),

- having regard to the report of the Political Affairs Committee (Doc.),

A. whereas the territory of East Timor was illegally annexed in 1975 and has since been forcibly occupied by Indonesia, and whereas this has resulted in a large number of casualties and widespread damage,

B. whereas this occupation has been condemned not only by the United Nations General Assembly and the conference of non-aligned nations but also by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and many other international organizations of a political, humanitarian or religious nature,

C. whereas human rights are being violated by: arbitrary imprisonment, deporation, foreced resettlement, ill-treatment, torture, death sentences and executions, restrictions on the movement of persons and on postal communications, violation of personal privacy, the absence of the right of association and of freedom of expression and restrictions on freedom of religion,

D. whereas the cultural identity of the people of East Timor is being violated,

(1) OJ No. C 227, 10.7.86, p. 124

E. whereas freedom of religion leaves much to be desired, and whereas the Catholic church has particular cause to complain about restrictions on its freedom,

F. whereas the people of East Timor are not able to exercise their right of self-determination,

G. whereas a very substantial proportion of the population is opposed to the Indonesian presence in East Timor,

H. whereas, under Article 297 of its Constitution, Portugal remains bound by the responsibilities incumbent upon it under international law to promote the independence of East Timor,

I. whereas, since the accession of Portugal to the European Community, the institutions of the Community bear an even greater responsibility than in the past for the people of East Timor,

J. whereas a number of EEC Member States continue to allow the export of military equipment to Indonesia without regard to its illegal occupation of East Timor and its continuing military operations in that country,

1. Condemns the occupation of East Timor by Indonesia and confirms the right of self-determination of the people of East Timor;

2. Defends the right of the people of East Timor to maintain, develop and affirm its cultural, linguistic and religious identity derived from its history and condemns Indonesia's premeditated and systematic attempts to destroy that identity;

3. Condemns the Indonesia policy of denying to independent foreign visitors the opportunity to examine conditions in the country and to investigate reports of human rights violations;

4. Requests the Indonesian Government to allow international aid and human rights' organizations to come to East Timor and to give them complete freedom of movement;

5. Condemns the continuing violation of human rights in East Timor by Indonesian occupation forces and by paramilitary and civil organizations under the control of the Indonesian authorities;

6. Urges the Indonesian Government to comply with the international provisions on human rights in East Timor;

7. Calls on the Member States of the European Community to undertake political action with a view to securing a withdrawal of Indonesian troops from East Timor and respect for the fundamental rights of the people, including the right of self-determination, and to support the efforts of the UN Secretary-General aimed at achieving these objectives;

8. Calls on the UN Secretary-General, in his efforts to find a solution, to consult not only with Portugal and Indonesia but also with the representatives of the people of East Timor;

9. Calls on all governments in the Community to halt the sale of military equipment to Indonesia until the illegal occupation of East Timor is brought to an end;

10. Requests the Council of Ministers to take measures aimed at enabling a referendum to be held after a transitional period, with the people being allowed freedom of choice on the future of East Timor;

11. Expresses the wish that Portugal, as the 'administrative power', under the provisions of international law and the Portuguese Constitution, should be allowed to play the active role falling to it to guarantee the effective exercise of the right of self-determination of the people of East Timor and supports the efforts made by the Portuguese authorities to that end;

12. Urges the Council of Ministers to establish contact with all parties involved in the conflict, including representatives of the East Timor community and to report to Parliament on the progress of its initiatives;

13. Calls on all the EEC institutions to bear in mind the situation in East Timor and the terms of this resolution when considering relations between the EEC and the ASEAN countries;

14. Requests the Commission to take into account the situation in East Timor in its contacts with the Indonesian authorities;

15. Urges the Commission, in cooperation with the Portuguese authorities and aid organizations, to grant adequate aid both in East Timor and in the refugee camps in Portugal and Australia;

16. Requests the Commission to give a progress report within six months;

17. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, UN organizations, the conference of non-aligned nations, the Government of Indonesia and the Government of Australia.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

A. Introduction

'Nor do we forget our responsibility as regards the administration of the territory of Macao and the importance of Portuguese culture in South East Asia. In such a context I must place on record my indignation and disgust at the dramatic situation still continuing in East Timor in breach of the most elementary rules of international co-existence and basic human rights. Portugal does not intend simply to leave East Timor to its fate and hopes that the Community institutions, in particular this Parliament, will give it the attention and interest which the seriousness of the problem merits.'

(Address by Mr Soares, President of the Republic of Portugal, to the European Parliament on 9 July 1986.)

Representatives of various political parties in Portugal (for a list of persons interviewed by the rapporteur and background information see Annex I) readily admit that for a number of years now there has not been undue political interest in East Timor. The explanation given is that after the revolution of 25 April 1974 Portugal had its hands full with its own political problems. Since then, however, there has been a strong revival of interest in the island in South East Asia. Politicians including the President have used every opportunity to point out that Portugal feels responsible for East Timor, that they reject the occupation by Indonesia and that everything must be done to enable the people in East Timor to decide freely on their own future.

It is not clear to what extent the phrasing used in the programme of the present Portuguese Government represents a change of attitude; it refers to a 'dignified solution' to the problem which, according to a subsequent government declaration, would guarantee 'the cultural and religious identity of the people of Timor and the preservation of the Portuguese cultural heritage in that area'.

B. Occupation by Indonesia

The occupation of East Timor by Indonesian troops took place on 7 December 1975 after the conflict between the UDT (Democratic Union of East Timor) and the ASDT (Social Democratic Party) had been decided in favour of the latter. Previously the Indonesian Government had attempted to cause disunity amongst the various parties and groups established mainly on ethnic lines, but that proved a failure: they came together in Fretilin. The rapporteur has spoken with representatives of these organizations who were united in declaring that the struggle for the right of self-determination of the people of East Timor had their absolute priority. Both groups have called for a referendum in East Timor on the future form of government and have stated that they will accept in full the results of such a referendum, regardless of the outcome.

The people felt threatened by Indonesia. Although the Indonesian Government originally assured them that:

'1. The independence of every country is the right of every nation, with no exception for the people in Timor.

2. The government as well as the people of Indonesia have no intention to increase or to expand their territory.

3. Whoever will govern Timor in the future after independence can be assured that the government of Indonesia will always strive to maintain good relations' (letter to Ramos Horta, 17 June 1974),

there was increasing concern at the development of an independent state on the periphery of Indonesia. It was feared that this could be a major stimulus for other local liberation movements, e.g. in Atjeh and West Irian.

The Indonesians accused Fretilin of a number of things for which there was in fact no proof. Fretilin was not practising terror; in fact it had taken upon itself the development of the countryside and had set up a large number of schools and health centres. Primitive but reasonably successful. Moreover, Fretilin was not asking for immediate independence, but stated its willingness to accept a transitional period of 5 to 7 years under Portuguese sovereignty.

C. The Indonesian invasion

The Indonesian invasion on 7 December 1975 did not come as a surprise to East Timor. The Indonesian forces occupied a number of coastal cities but failed to penetrate into the interior. On 25 December there was a second, much larger invasion which, however, was also not entirely successful. More and more troops and equipment had to be sent to the island to counter the recurring resistance from Fretilin. The people, who overwhelmingly supported Fretilin, fell prey to groups of murdering and looting Indonesians.

Portugal took the matter up with the United Nations, because it regarded the Indonesian invasion as an infringement of Portuguese sovereignty (the Republic of East Timor had been recognized only by a few countries). The Security Council condemned the Indonesian action and requested a withdrawal of troops followed by negotiations. The UN diplomat Guicciardi attempted in January 1976 to launch an inquiry into the situation on East Timor, but the Indonesian authorities blocked his efforts.

The question again came up in the Security Council. The appeal to Indonesia to desist from military force and to respect the rights of self-determination of the people of East Timor was repeated. In August, Indonesia was also condemned by the conference of non-aligned nations.

Indonesia took little notice of all the international protests and simply continued with its annexation of East Timor. A parliament was appointed to give an aura of legitimacy to the annexation. Nevertheless, it was hard to conceal how difficult the situation really was. The conflict had become a textbook example of a guerrilla war.

The outside world gradually became aware of the serious consequences which the war had had for the civil population. As early as 1976 a number of reports were talking of at least 60 000 dead. Fretilin's resistance was slowly weakened because of the duration of the war and the lack of outside help. After two years' war Indonesia decided to go over to a different tactic. In an attempt to isolate the guerrilla fighters, the Indonesians forced the population into camps in the vicinity of the cities. The evacuated areas were systematically bombed flat. The consequences were disastrous. It was no longer possible to cultivate the land and this resulted in severe famine. On the other hand, Fretilin was weakened to such an extent that the Indonesians regarded the situation as safe enough to allow the Red Cross and the American Catholic Relief Service in. It is difficult to estimate the total number of

victims who have died in various ways as a result of the Indonesian action. As accurate a comparison as possible of all the figures available suggests that the figure must be between 130 000 and 300 000 dead - or one fifth to one third of the total population. This puts the tragedy of East Timor in the same category as Biafra and Cambodia.

D. Recent developments

Until 1983 the United Nations adopted a resolution every year condemning Indonesia for its policy in East Timor.

In 1983 Indonesia decided to negotiate with Fretilin. In March there were talks between Colonel Purwanto, the Indonesian commander, and Fretilin leader Xanana Gusmao, which led to a cease-fire.

The negotiations were broken off in September 1983 and shortly afterwards fighting resumed. The decision to attempt to use military measures once again to break resistance was undoubtedly influenced by the new Indonesian Commander-in-Chief General Murdani, who had been involved in the invasion of East Timor from the very beginning.

There has been little improvement in the situation on East Timor since 1984. There has been continuous repression by Indonesian troops. There are regular reports of serious violations of human rights. It is estimated that several hundred guerrillas of the Fretilin resistance movement are operating in the mountains. They have been able to establish a radio link with Australia, thereby ending their isolation to some extent. However, Fretilin is not a serious military threat to the Indonesians. Conversely, the Indonesian army has not been able fully to eliminate Fretilin. The ordinary people are the victims of this impasse.

Indonesia is endeavouring to soften the impact of annexing East Timor by carrying out large-scale development programmes. A lot of schools and roads have been built and food production has been improved, although the figures published by Indonesia are questionable. In any event the famine prevailing in the late 70s and early 80s has been overcome. Part of the island is being cultivated for export products, in particular coffee, which benefit firms connected with the Indonesian army. Selected journalists and diplomats are occasionally invited to come and admire the results of redevelopment.

The information available suggests that the local population are endeavouring to maintain their separate identity and are refusing to become 'Indonesianized'. This is most apparent in the increasing role of the Catholic church. In the space of a few years the number of registered Catholics has risen from 30% to 80% of the population. It should be pointed out here that in Indonesia anyone who states he has no religion is automatically classified as a 'Communist'.

As a result the bishop of East Timor has been able to assume greater responsibility. The church is endeavouring to offer as much protection as possible. The Vatican and the bishop have condemned violations of human rights in strong terms. Amnesty International also conducted a campaign in 1985 against the violation of human rights of East Timor.

Another sign that the local population are closing ranks against the Indonesians is the recent political cooperation between Fretilin and the UDT, the East Timor Democratic Union. For a long time the UDT, a small party of businessmen and civil servants, advocated union with Indonesia but it now supports Fretilin's desire for self-determination.

Every year since 1982 the General Assembly of the United Nations has deferred discussion of the matter of East Timor because negotiations were under way between Indonesia and Portugal. However, these negotiations are proceeding at a snail's pace and are failing to take account of the most important political problems.

A number of former Portuguese colonies in Africa have ensured that East Timor is on the agenda of the movement of non-aligned nations. This is a sensitive point, since Indonesia aspires to leadership of this movement.

D. A problem for the Community

As stated above, in Portugal there is of course considerable political interest in the East Timor question. For example, the rapporteur witnessed a large-scale television fund-raising campaign for East Timor refugees. The question also played a role in the campaign for the election of 12 July 1987 when virtually all the parties stressed that the East Timor question needed to be solved.

A special committee of the Portuguese Parliament unanimously issued a recommendation urging freedom of choice for the people of East Timor. The responsibility of the European Community for the East Timor problem has inevitably increased.

It is therefore a matter of urgent necessity for the European Parliament to issue a public statement on this question and to help ensure that a political solution is found which is acceptable to the people of East Timor.

The rapporteur made use of the following information in compiling this report:

- Report presented by the temporary committee for monitoring the situation in East Timor (November 1986) from the Portuguese Parliament.
- Amnesty International reports
- Reports on Human Rights Practices issued by the State Department
- Timor Link
- Information provided by the Indonesian Embassy in Brussels
- Publications by various non-governmental organizations.

In Lisbon the rapporteur had discussions with:

- Ex-President Eanes of Portugal
- Representatives of Fretilin
- Representatives of the UDT
- Representatives of A Paz é Possivel em Timor Leste
- Members of the parliamentary committee of the Portuguese Parliament.

The rapporteur also visited a number of refugee camps and refugee homes of East Timor people near Lisbon and held talks with representatives of the residents.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION
tabled by Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE and Mr KUIJPERS
pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
on the reign of terror established by Indonesian troops in East Timor
(doc. B2-927/85) 19 September 1985

The European Parliament,

A. having regard to frequent reports of the reign of terror established by Indonesian troops in East Timor,

B. whereas East Timor was governed by Portugal until 1975 when it was declared independent by one of the two nationalist parties, i.e. the FRETILIN, but was then occupied by Indonesia,

C. whereas this action lead to protests by the UN,

D. having regard to the extensive report by Amnesty International on flagrant violations of human rights by Indonesian troops in East Timor, despite the amnesty granted in 1977, under which FRETILIN fighters were required to surrender,

E. whereas waves of repression in 1980, 1981, 1983 and 1984 have led to mass arrests, torture, executions and disappearances,

F. having regard to reports that a large number of women and children are being held on Atauro Island, which has been turned into a kind of prison, and whereas 200 died through malnutrition and malaria in the period June 1981 to May 1982,

G. whereas even recently Indonesian troops were still torturing and killing people in East Timor,

H. having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

1. Protests vigorously to the Indonesian authorities over the torture, murders and disappearances in East Timor;

2. Calls on the Indonesian authorities to carry out a serious investigation of the state of affairs in East Timor and to punish all those responsible for acts of violence;

3. Insists on the right of all prisoners in East Timor to a fair trial and demands the immediate release of all prisoners against whom there is no proof of any serious offence;

4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation and the Indonesian authorities.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION tabled by Miss BROOKES
pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
on the violations of human rights in East Timor
(doc. B2-1146/85) 29 October 1985

ANNEX III

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the current debate on human rights,

- having regard to the motion of resolution tabled by Mr Vandemeulebroucke and Mr Kuijpers on the reign of terror established by Indonesian troops in East Timor (Doc. B 2-927/85),

- having regard to the motion of resolution tabled by Mr Lomas on refugees from the Indonesian Province of Irian Jaya (Doc. 2-605/84),

- having regard to the repeated efforts by Amnesty International to attract public attention to the violations of human rights by the Indonesian army in East Temor and elsewhere,

A. conscious that systematic torture, arbitrary killings and disappearances of many prisoners of East Timor, perpetrated by Indonesian troops since the annexation in 1976, continue despite the international effort to put an end to these practices,

B. aware that access to prisons and trials has been made difficult or even impossible to humanitarian organizations such as the Red Cross and Amnesty,

C. certain that the Indonesian Government is fully aware of these violations of human rights and of their condemnation by the outside world,

D. persuaded that pressure from countries which provide development aid and purchase large quantities of Indonesian products, such as Member States of the EEC, could have a decisive effect on a favourable evolution of the Indonesian Government's attitude towards the situation in East Temor,

1. Calls on the Commission to consider these facts when determining its future development policy;

2. Demands that considerations on human rights issue be included into any new trade agreements between the EEC and Indonesia;

3. Calls on its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Indonesian authorities

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION tabled by Mr van der LEK pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on East Timor (doc. B2-1150/85)

30 October 1985

The European Parliament,

A. whereas the territory of East Timor has been illegally and forcibly occupied by Indonesia since December 1975, entailing a large number of casualties and widespread damage,

B. whereas Portugal regards East Timor as Portuguese territory and is constitutionally pledged to further the cause of this territory's independence,

C. whereas discussions have been taking place for a considerable time between Portugal and Indonesia, under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General, without participation by the East Timor people's own representatives,

D. whereas Portugal is to become a member of the European Communities on 1 January 1986,

E. condemning the Indonesian policy of keeping East Timor isolated from the outside world by refusing international aid organizations access and limiting their freedom of movement and by obstructing the international community in its efforts to objectively establish the wishes of the people of East Timor,

F. condemning the continuing violation of human rights by the occupying forces in East Timor, and dismayed by the decision of the UN Commission on Human Rights not to make an assessment of the situation in East Timor at its 1985 meeting,

G. deploring the lack of real pressure from members of the IGGI on the Indonesian Government to respect the rights of the people of East Timor to independence, freedom and justice,

1. Considers that the European Community must do all in its power to secure the right of the people of East Timor to self-determination;

2. Calls on the Indonesian Government:

   - to respect the right of the people of East Timor to self-determination and to end the occupation of this territory;

   - to put an immediate end to the hostile action against the inhabitants of East Timor, and to begin negotiations with representatives of the East Timor population;

   - to respect human rights and to create internationally acceptable conditions for the entry and activities of aid and development organizations and independent visitors, journalists and diplomats;

3. Calls on the Member States of the European Community and the participants in the IGGI Conference to develop effective means of pressure so that the Indonesian Government ceases its violation of human rights, ends the isolation of this territory and respects the right of the people of East Timor to self-determination;

4. Calls on the Member States and the participants in the IGGI Conference to insist that the representatives of the people of East Timor, including the Fretilin, participate fully in any negotiations on the future of this territory;

5. Calls on Portugal in particular to do all in its power to secure self-determination for the people of East Timor;

6. Requests the Commission to investigate what status the people of East Timor have in terms of nationality under Portuguese and international law, and what implications this has for the Community's involvement in the East Timor conflict following Portugal's accession.

ANNEX V

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION
tabled by Mr David MARTIN and Mrs BUCHAN
pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
on East Timor (doc. B2-1218/85) 18 November 1985

The European Parliament,

A. whereas the imminent accession of Portugal to the EEC should focus the Parliament's attention on the fate of Portugal's former colonies,

B. whereas the nation of East Timor was illegally annexed by Indonesia in 1976,

C. whereas the occupation of East Timor by Indonesian troops has been repeatedly condemned by the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council,

D. whereas at least 60,000 Timorese were killed in the first three months after the Indonesian invasion,

E. whereas the occupying forces have used East Timorese villagers as human fences in operations against Fretilin forces,

F. whereas Amnesty International has expressed its concern about 'disappearances', extra-judicial executions, torture, detention with cruel and inhuman conditions and imprisonment without charge or trial,

1. Condemns the continuing illegal occupation of East Timor by Indonesian forces;

2. Calls on the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation to bring pressure on the Indonesian Government to end the abuse of human rights in East Timor and to respect the decisions of the United Nations;

3. Calls on the Commission to examine the Community's trade and aid relationships with Indonesia with a view to bringing pressure on the Indonesian Government;

4. Instructs the President to convey the terms of this motion to the Commission, the Council and the Indonesian Government.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION
tabled pursuant to Rule 63 of the Rules of Procedure
by Mr TELKÄMPER, Mr von NOSTITZ, Mr van der LEK and
Mr UEXKULL
on the imprisonment of Antonio Gonçalves, a citizen of
East Timor, in Indonesia (Doc. B 2-1510/87) 5 January 1988

The European Parliament,

A. whereas the Indonesian army invaded and annexed the former Portuguese colony in 1975 and murdered some 200 000 of East Timor's population of 700 000 people,

B. whereas the eastern half of the island of Timor is still virtually sealed off from the outside world,

C. whereas, in September 1986, Indonesian security forces in Jakarta arrested an East Timor student, Antonio Goncalves, and two friends on suspicion of having smuggled information about the closed half of the island to the outside world,

D. whereas the authorities released the students on 11 October as a result of international pressure,

E. whereas they fled, together with a fourth person, to the Dutch Embassy in order to escape further persecution,

F. whereas they applied to the embassy for asylum in Portugal, which does not maintain diplomatic relations with Indonesia,

G. whereas the Dutch threatened to clear the embassy instead of providing help and whereas the Indonesian authorities also refused categorically to allow them to leave the country,

H. whereas the students left the embassy on 22 October,

I. whereas, since they have been living at a friend's house, they have been watched continually by the police and they frequently receive death threats by telephone,

K. whereas it is only international attention that is preventing them from being arrested again,

1. Calls on its parliamentary delegation for relations with the Member States of Asean to support international initiatives to secure permission for the students to leave the country and to support Antonio Goncalves in talks with Indonesian government representatives;

2. Asks the Indonesian Government to allow Antonio Goncalves to leave the country;

3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the council, the Commission, the Indonesian Government and the Gesellschaft fur bedröhte Völker (Society for Nations in Danger).